



IPW

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 03180.0324

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Shunko MAGOSHI et al.)
Application No.: 10/602,670) Group Art Unit: 2881
Filed: June 25, 2003) Examiner: Zia R. Hashimi
For: METHOD FOR CORRECTING A)
PROXIMITY EFFECT, AN EXPOSURE)
METHOD, A MANUFACTURING METHOD)
OF A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND A)
PROXIMITY CORRECTION MODULE)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This is a response to the Office Action dated May 5, 2004. Claims 1-22 remain pending.

Please consider the following remarks.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over published U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0093767 A1 by Murai et al. (“Murai”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,051,598 to Ashton et al. (“Ashton”). Specifically, the Examiner alleges that Murai teaches every element of the claims, except calculating a corrected dose for the processing pattern according to the pattern area density as recited by the claims. (OA, page 2.) The Examiner, however, alleges that Ashton supplies this missing teaching. (OA, page 3.) Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for the following reasons.